



Spartan Motors Chassis, Inc ♦ 1000 Reynolds Road ♦ Charlotte MI 48813

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

<<TRW Ball Socket Assembly, Part #20-EDL >>
Internally coded: SPEC <<Spec #00016 >>

00V-246.207

This report submitted to: **Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20590**

**Attn: Pat Wallace
Office of Defects Investigation
Fax: (202) 366-7882**

(1) Manufacturer's Identification

The manufacturer's name: **Spartan Motors, Inc.
1000 Reynolds Road
Charlotte, Michigan 48813
(517) 543-6400**

Corporate contact for recall information:

**Wayne Ridge
Product Improvement Administrator
Customer Service Operations
(517) 543-6400, extension 445

(800) 722-3025
Fax: (517) 543-7764**

This report prepared by:

**Barry Killick
Compliance Manager
Product Compliance Group

(517) 543-6400, extension 310
Fax: (517) 543-7729**

Date this report was prepared:

<< Date: September 21, 2000 >>

Preparer's signature:

49 CFR 573.5
Defect and Noncompliance Information Report
Submitted by Spartan Motors, Inc.

Recall Topic SPEC00016

(2) Vehicle Identification

Identification of the vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment potentially containing the defect:

Make(s)	Spartan Motors		
Model(s)	Summit, Alpine, TB, SBFE		
Model Years Involved	1999 and 2000		
Vehicle Type	Motorhome, Transit Bus, School Bus		
Weight Range	From	To	
GVWR Weight Class	29,000 lbs.	31,000 lbs.	
Production Range	Production Date	Serial Number	Event
Beginning	July 7, 1999	32919	N/A
Ending	August 31, 2000	37458	
% Potentially Involved	23%		

Descriptive information which characterizes / distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall.

(3) Recall Population

The total number of vehicles or items of equipment potentially containing the defect and where available the number of vehicles or items of equipment in each group identified.

Model	Model Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
Summit	1999/2000	754
Alpine	1999/2000	61
Transit Bus	1999/2000	43
School Bus	2000	2
Total		860

(4) Defect Percentage

The percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect.

Approximate Defect Percentage: 23%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined – in particular how the recalled models were selected and the bases for the inclusive dates of manufacture:

A query was completed for all vehicles built between July 5, 1999 and August 31, 2000 that contain Spartan Part No. 0133-KK2 (TRW #L20VT8119B12) or Part No. 0168-KK2-001 (TRW #L20VT8148A11) Drag Links. These drag links were built by TRW and supplied to Spartan Motors and might contain suspect TRW 20-EDL Ball Socket Assemblies.

49 CFR 573.5
Defect and Noncompliance Information Report
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Recall Topic
SPEC00016

(5) Defect Identification

A description and consequence of the defect or noncompliance, including both a brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location (if applicable) of the defect or noncompliance.

See TRW's 9/5/00 Advise ment to Spartan Motors (attached)

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

See TRW's 9/5/00 Advise ment to Spartan Motors (attached)

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

See TRW's 9/5/00 Advise ment to Spartan Motors (attached)

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

See TRW's 9/5/00 Advise ment to Spartan Motors (attached)

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, and representatives.

Generic component name:	Ball Socket Assembly
Component part number:	TRW 20-EDL
Corporate name:	TRW Automotive
Corporate address:	1900 Richmond Rd.
	Cleveland, OH 44124
Corporate telephone number:	
CEO name:	Joseph T. Gorman
CEO telephone:	
Knowledgeable representative name:	Larry LaFleur
Knowledgeable rep. title:	Director Operations
Knowledgeable rep. telephone:	785-423-5377

NOTE: Copy of the September 5, 2000 Advise ment to Spartan Motors by TRW Automotive is attached.

49 CFR 573.5
Defect and Noncompliance Information Report
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Recall Topic
SPEC00016

(6) Defect Determination Chronology

In the case of a defect, a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information (such as number of reports, crashes, injuries, fatalities), with their dates of receipt.

Date	Documentation	Event Description	Chassis VIN

(7) Noncompliance Determination Chronology

In the case of a noncompliance, the test results or other data on the basis of which the manufacturer determined the existence of the noncompliance.

Test report title:	N/A	See TRW Filing Under NHTSA Campaign
Test agency:	N/A	I.D. 00E-047
Test report identification:	N/A	
Test report date:	N/A	

(8) Remedy Identification

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. The manufacturer's program will be available for inspection in the public docket, Room 5109, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Washington, DC 20950.

Replace all defective ball sockets and/or drag links with new components.
REF: NHTSA Campaign I.D. 00E-047

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component / assembly versus the recalled component / assembly.

Date coding will provide this assurance
REF: NHTSA Campaign I.D. 00E-047

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

Current Spartan Inventory of 0168-KK2-001 Drag Links was inspected for date codes and total was found to not fall into TRW's Identified population. Spartan has zero inventory of the 0133-KK2 Drag Link. Therefore, all chassis production post August 31, 2000 will contain corrected components.

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for remedy notification to other manufacturers, dealers / retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

PENDING

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for remedy part(s) and instruction availability.

PENDING

49 CFR 573.5
Defect and Noncompliance Information Report
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Recall Topic
SPEC00016

(9) Communications Copies

A representative copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and are sent to more than one

- manufacturer
- distributor
- dealer
- purchaser

These copies shall be submitted to the NHTSA not later than five (5) days after they are initially sent to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or purchasers. In the case of any notification sent by the manufacturer pursuant to Part 577 of this chapter, the copy of the notification shall be submitted by certified mail.

Document Description	Document Identification and Title
Preliminary Final-Stage Manufacturer Notification (if applicable)	N/A PENDING
Customer Notification Letter (required)	PENDING
Customer Notification Script (if applicable)	PENDING
Press Release (if applicable)	N/A
Service Instructions (required)	PENDING
Envelope Sample	N/A

(10) Draft Notification Letter

A DRAFT copy of the notification document SHOULD BE submitted to this office by telefax (FAX: 202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing

- A draft of the customer notification letter will be submitted when available.

(11) Campaign Identification Number

The manufacturer's campaign number, if it is not identical to the identification number assigned by NHTSA.

Spartan Motors, Inc. will include the identification number as assigned by NHTSA to the campaign as originally filed by TRW, i.e. DOE-047. Additionally, the internal Spartan designation SPEC number may also be referenced.